Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USUN 5045

E.O. 11652: GDS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TAGS: UNIDO, AORG, APER

SUBJ: ALGERIAN CANDIDACY FOR UNIDO DIRECTORSHIP

1. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM STRESSED TO AMBASSADOR BENNETT NOVEMBER 13 PRESSURES HE IS UNDER FROM ALGERIANS FOR POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNIDO. ALGERIANS HAVE A CANDIDATE, A. R. LAMINE KHENE, AND HAVE BEEN PERSISTENTLY PRESSING HIS VIRTURES ON WALDHEIM. WALDHEIM SAID PERUVIANS WERE MAINTAINING CANDIDACY OF FERNANDINI, AND THIS HAS LATIN AMERICAN SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH EVERYONE AGREES FERRNANDINI HAS VERY LITTLE TO OFFER AND WOULD PREDICTABLY BE A WEAK ADMINISTRATOR. DURING CONVERSATION WALDHEIM DENIED THAT HE HAD EVER COMMITTED HIMSELF IRREVOCABLY TO LATIN AMERICAN THESIS THAT UNIDO JOB IS THEIRSBY RIGHT. WALDHEIM SAID ALGERIAN PRESSURE HAS PUT HIM IN A DILEMMA. IT SEEMED APPARENT THAT, CAUGHT BETWEEN ALGERIAN DETERMINATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF A WEAK LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATE, HE IS NOW LEANING TOWARD SELECTION OF ALGERIAN AS NEXT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNIDO.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION WE HAVE HEARD THAT KHENE IS BEING CONSIDERED AS THE NEW ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, WHICH MAY PUT HIM OUT OF THE RUNNING FOR THE UNIDO JOB. HOWEVER IN THAT EVENTUALITY, WE HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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REASON TO BELIEVE ALGERIANS WOULD FIELD ANOTHER

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